

# ***Multi-Attribute Tradespace Exploration with Concurrent Design:***

## **Project X-TOS**

***Adam Ross, MIT SSPARC***

***Contributors: Nathan P. Diller, Professor Daniel Hastings***

***New Design Paradigms Workshop  
June 26, 2002***

- Motivation
- MATE-CON definitions
- MATE-CON process
- X-TOS
  - Problem outline
  - MATE-CON application (process and results)
- MATE-CON Benefits
  - Delivery of value-centric design (utility as metric)
  - Knowledge of global tradespace (many d.v. → attributes computed)
  - Flexibility to changing preferences
  - Rapid exploration (several mins to several hrs)
  - Optimizable process (DSM analysis)

## Issues raised in research of space system design and development

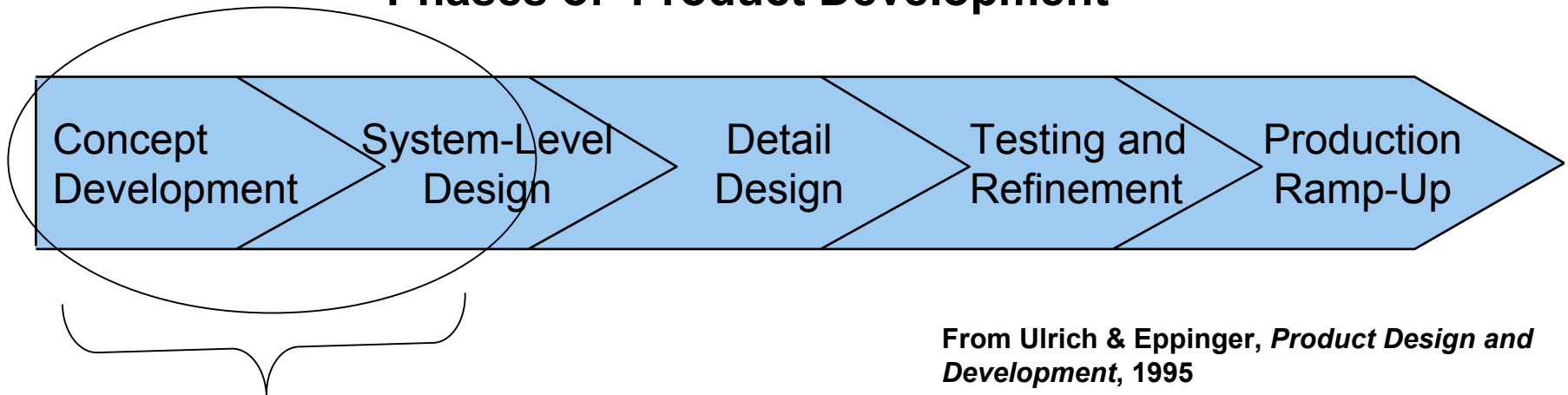
- Cost committal at beginning of design process
  - Long iteration times
  - Communication bottlenecks
  - Advances in the theory of product development processes
  - Lack of “systems thinking”
  - Growing complexity of systems
- Need for front-end attention
  - Need to streamline process
  - Need for including important stakeholders
  - Need for focusing on system-level interactions

# ***Some Important Definitions***

---

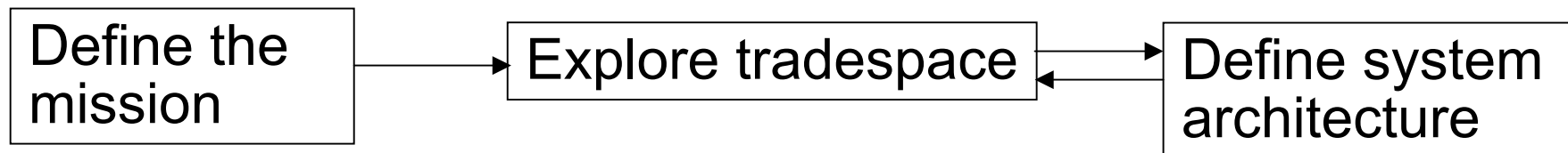
- Attribute: a decision maker-perceived metric that measures how well a decision maker-defined objective is met
- Utility: a dimensionless parameter that measures the “perceived value under uncertainty” of an attribute
- Design variable: a designer-controlled quantitative parameter that reflects an aspect of a concept
- Design vector: a set of design variables that taken together uniquely define a design or architecture

## Phases of Product Development



From Ulrich & Eppinger, *Product Design and Development*, 1995

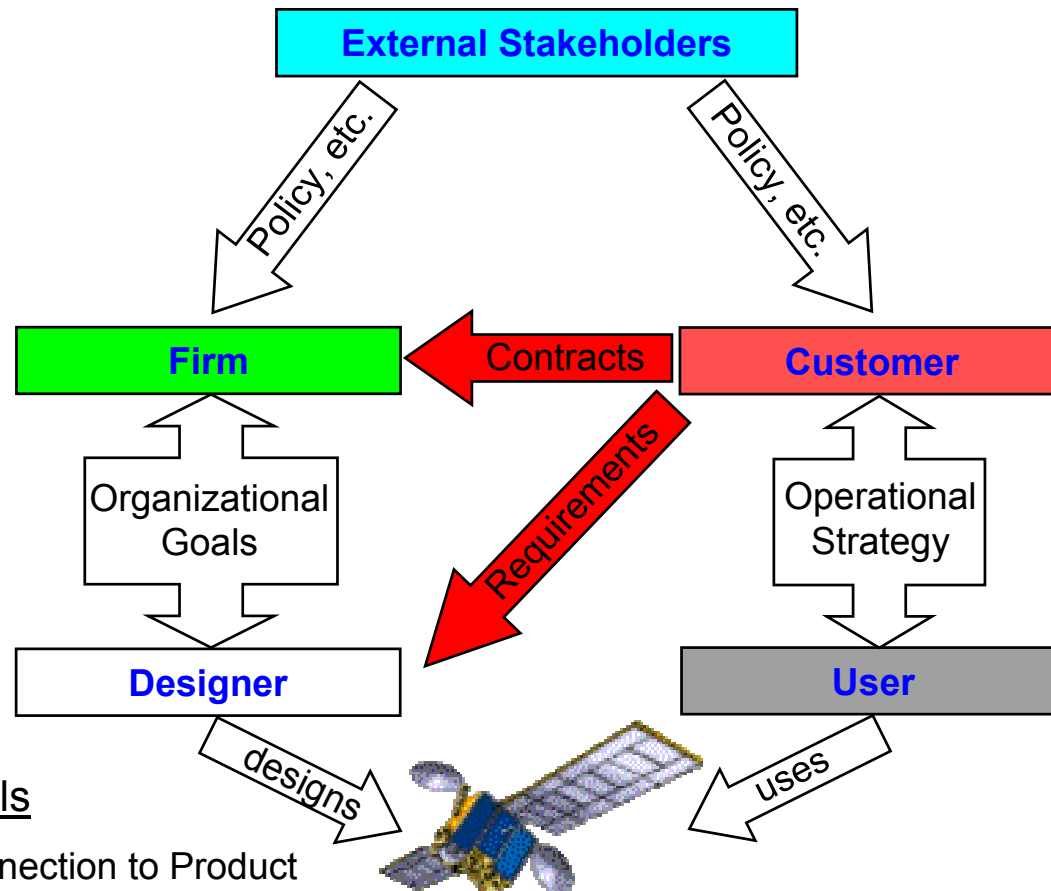
## MATE-CON Process



Level 0

Level 1

Level 2

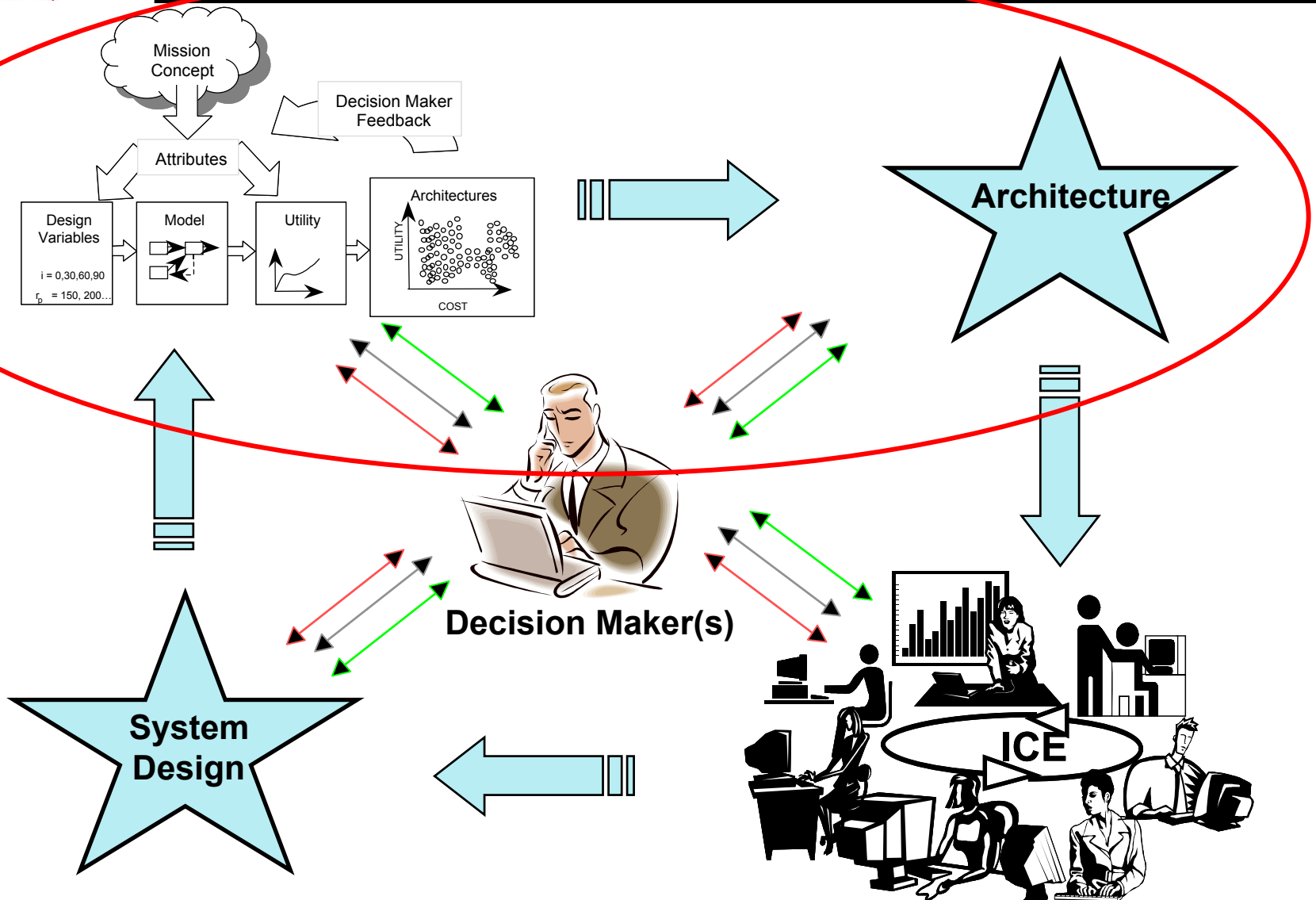


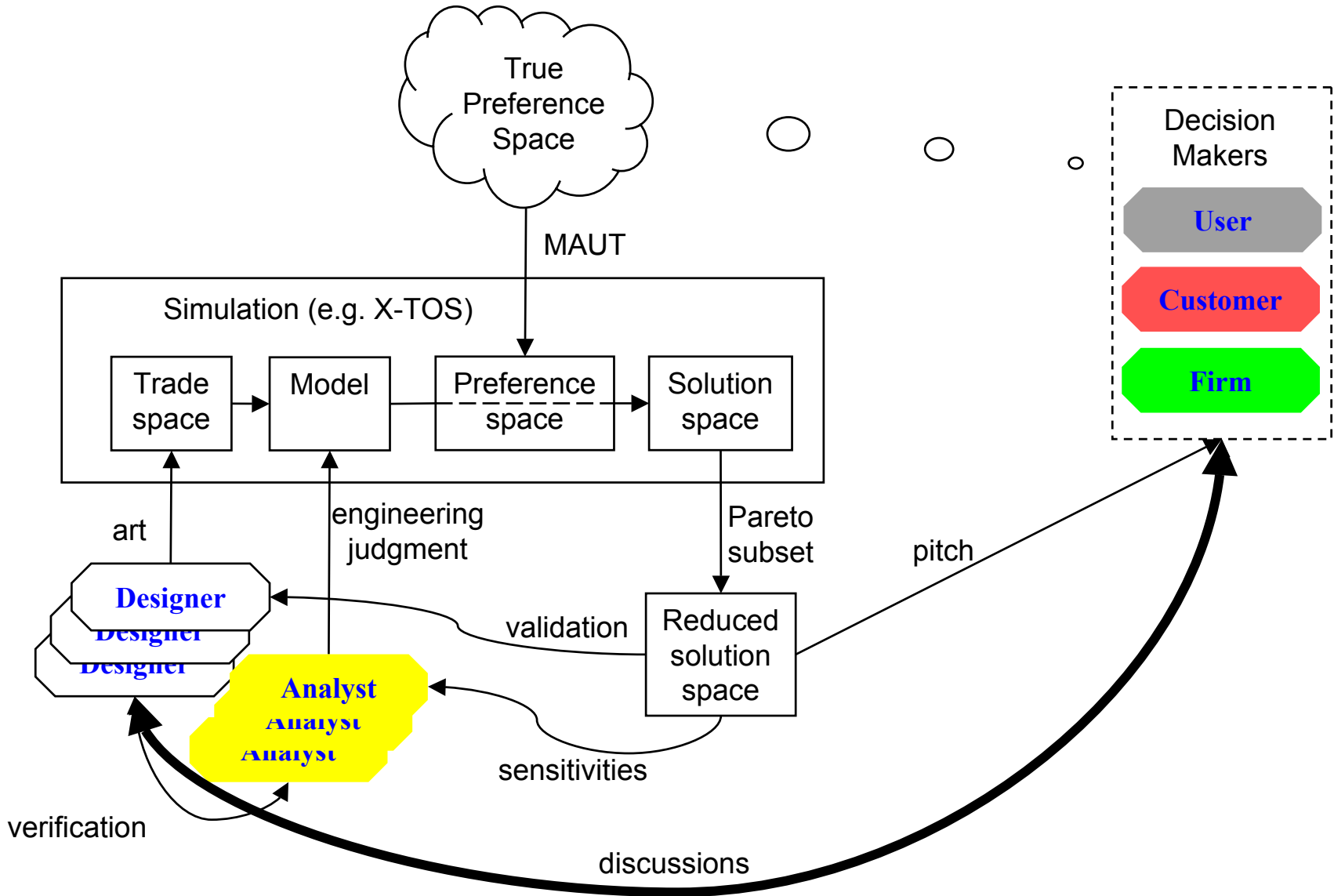
## Definition of Levels

Level 2 – Close connection to Product

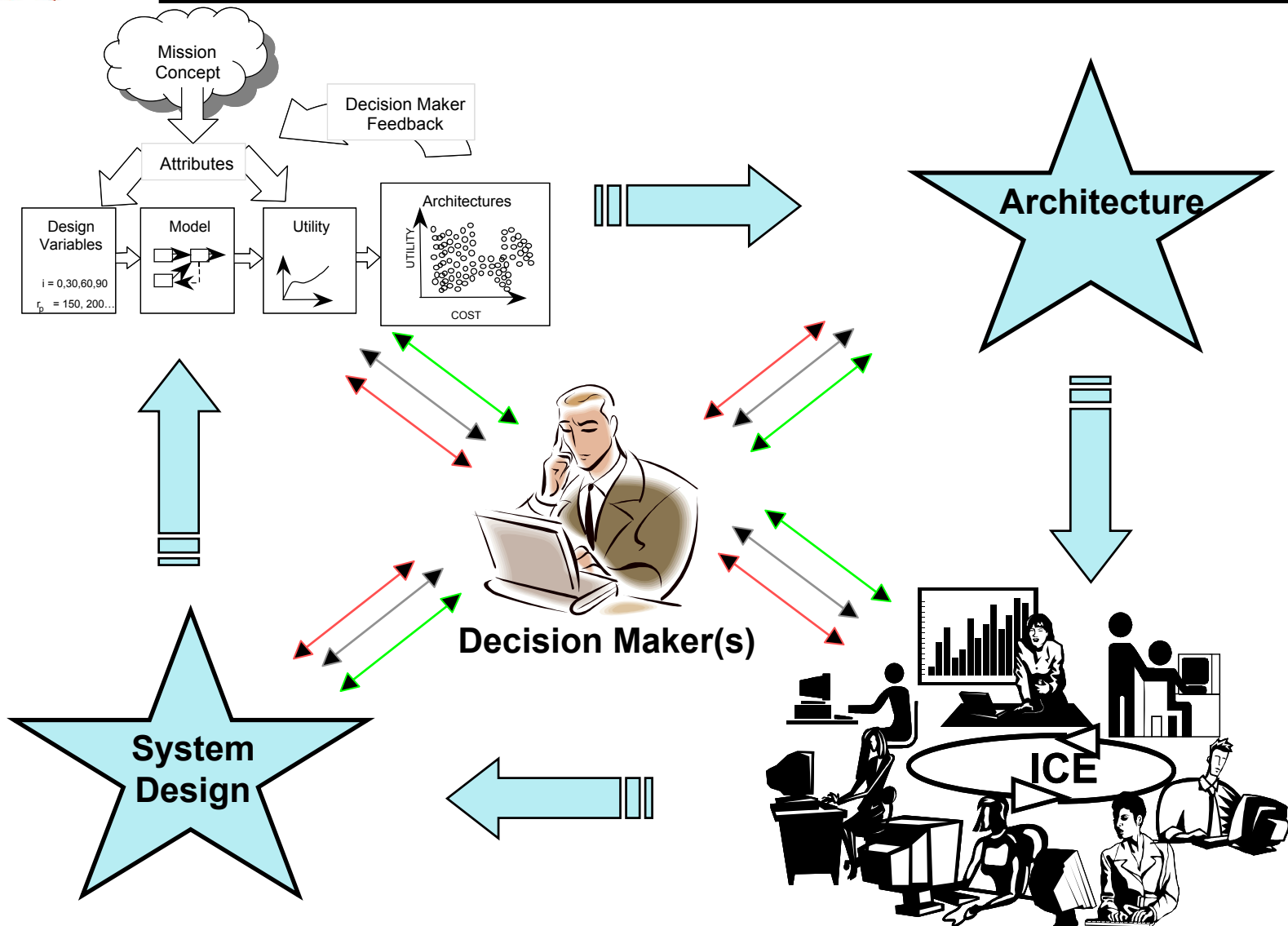
Level 1 – Distant connection to Product

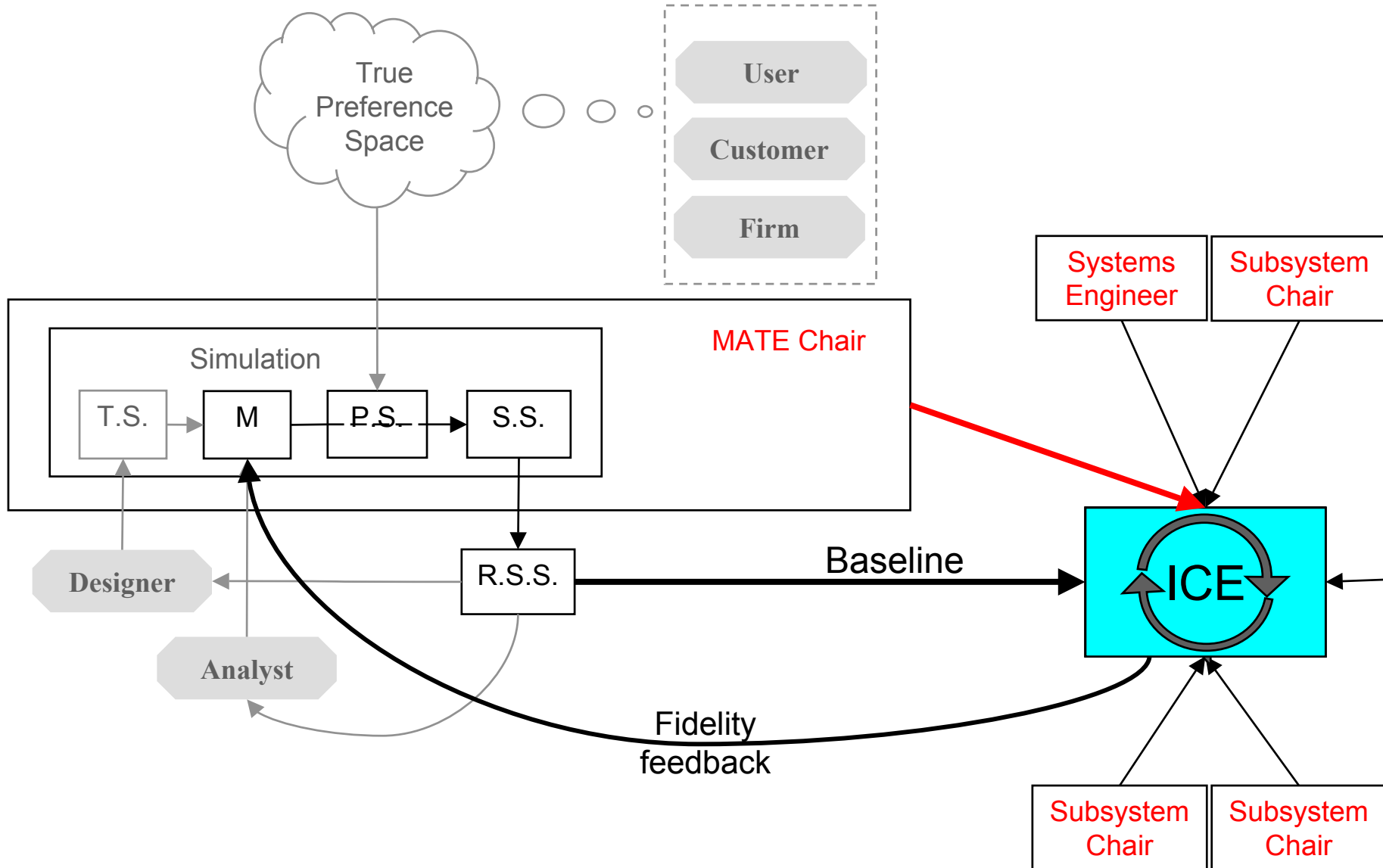
Level 0 – Little or no connection to Product



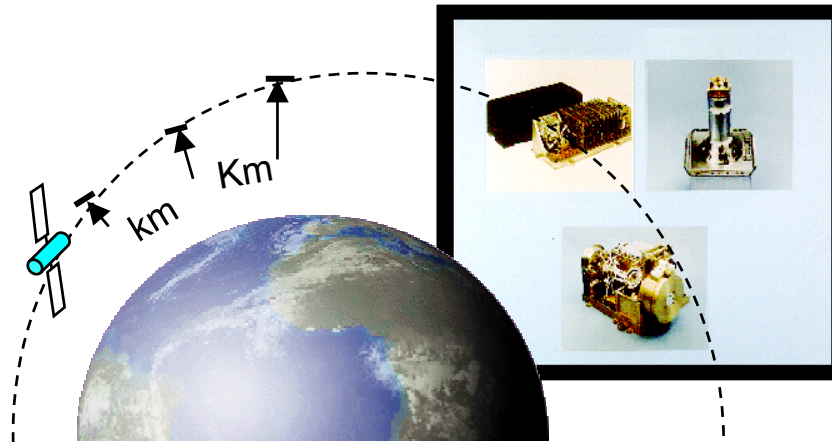








# Project 4: X-TOS

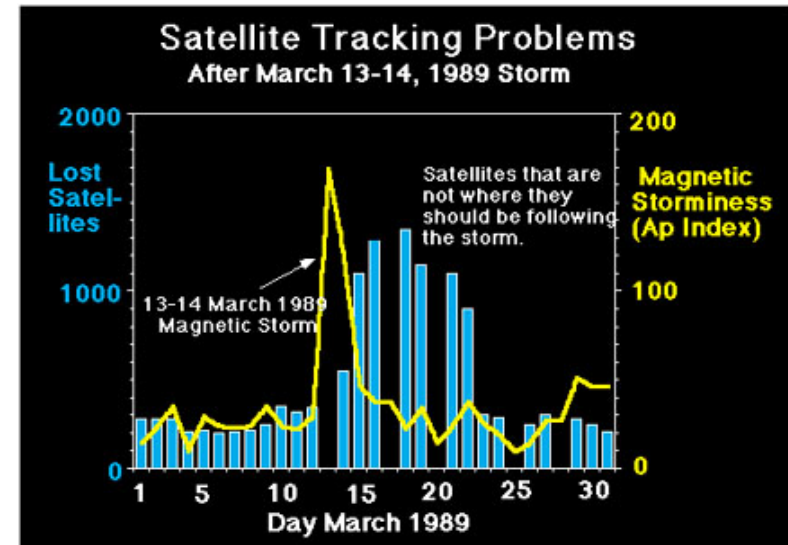
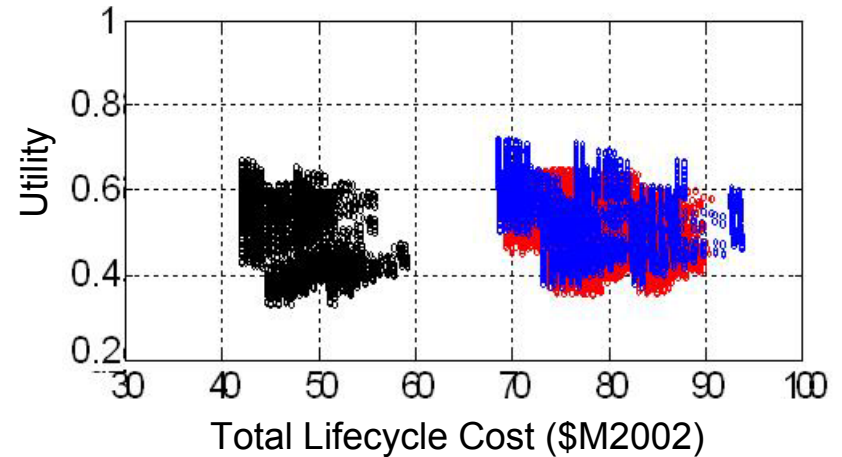


## DESIGN VARIABLES

- Mission Scenarios
  - Single satellite, single launch
  - Two satellites, sequential launch
  - Two satellites, parallel
- Orbital Parameters
 

– Apogee altitude (km)	150-1100
– Perigee altitude (km)	150-1100
– Orbit inclination	0, 30, 60, 90
- Physical Spacecraft Parameters
  - Antenna gain
  - communication architecture
  - propulsion type
  - power type
  - delta\_v

Number of Architectures Explored: 50488





**Mission  
Concept**

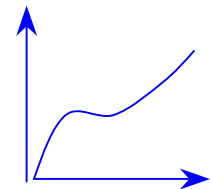
- Understand the mission
- Create a list of attributes
- Interview the decision maker(s)
- Create utility curves



**Attributes**




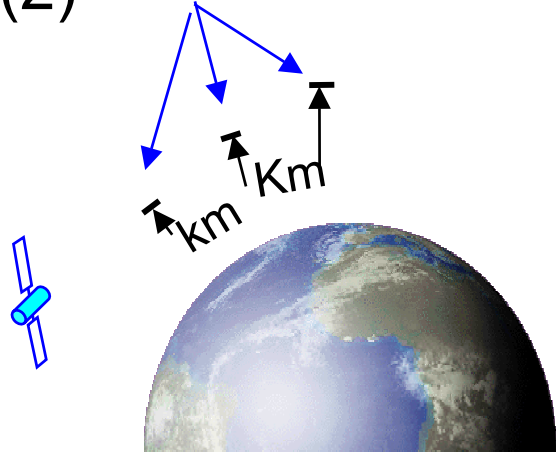
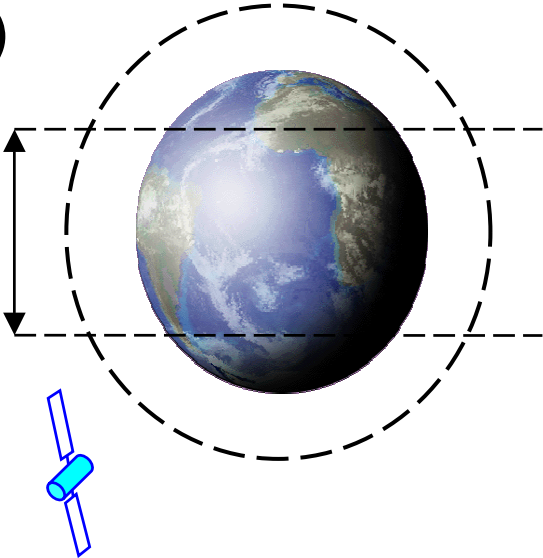
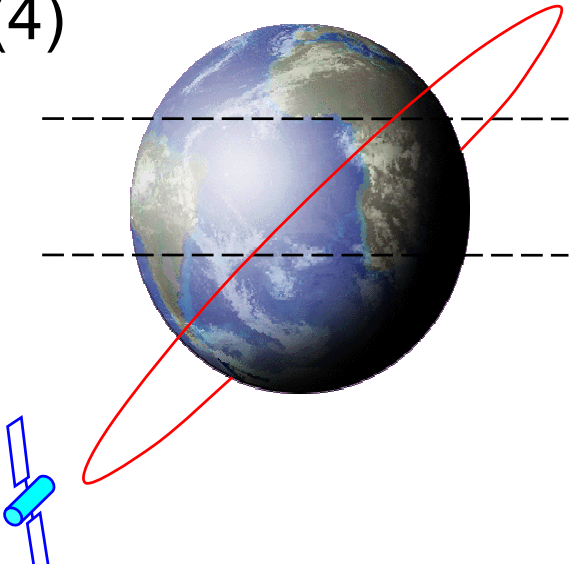
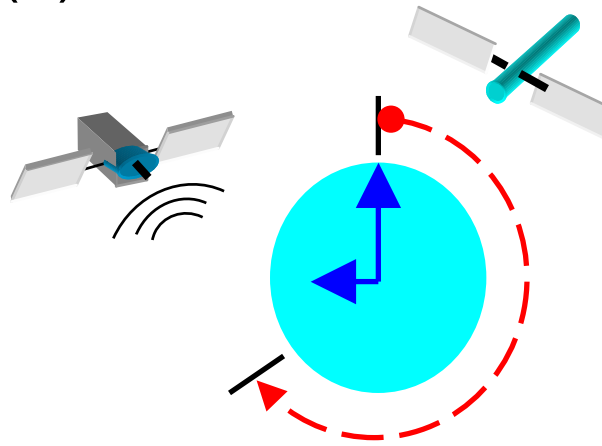
**Utility**



- Quantifiable variable capable of measuring how well a decision maker-defined objective is met
- Set of attributes must be:
  - Complete
  - Operational
  - Decomposable
  - Non-redundant
  - Minimal
  - Perceived Independent\*
- “Rule of 7”: Human mind limited to roughly 7 simultaneous concepts

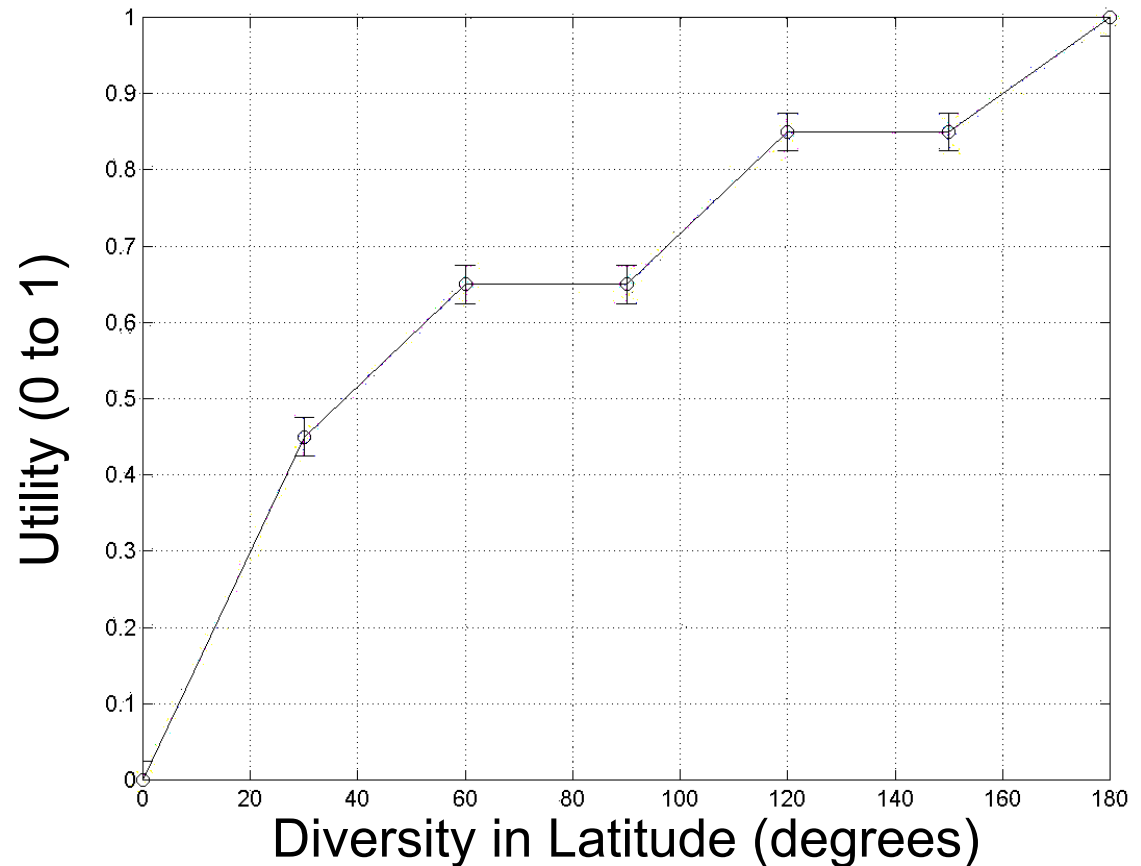
\*Not strictly necessary, but reduces interview time and complexity.

# X-TOS User Attributes

<p>1) Data Life Span 2) Data Altitude 3) Maximum Latitude 4) Time Spent at Equator 5) Data Latency</p>	<p>(1)</p> 	<p>(2)</p> 
<p>(3)</p> 	<p>(4)</p> 	<p>(5)</p> 

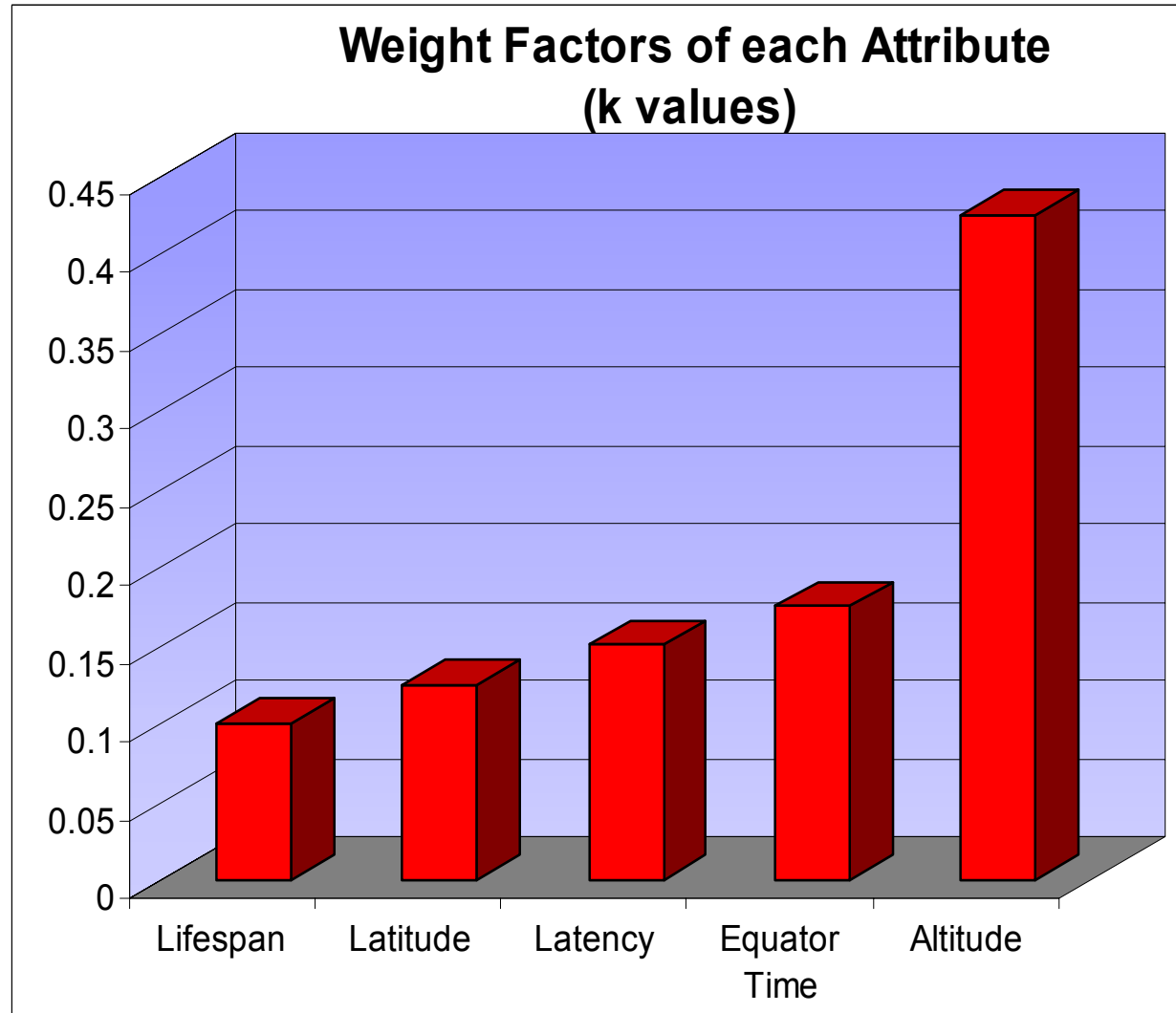
# Single Attribute Utility

- Mapping of attributes to perceived-value under uncertainty
- Utility is an ordered metric scale (e.g. °F)
- Not required to have “analytic” form



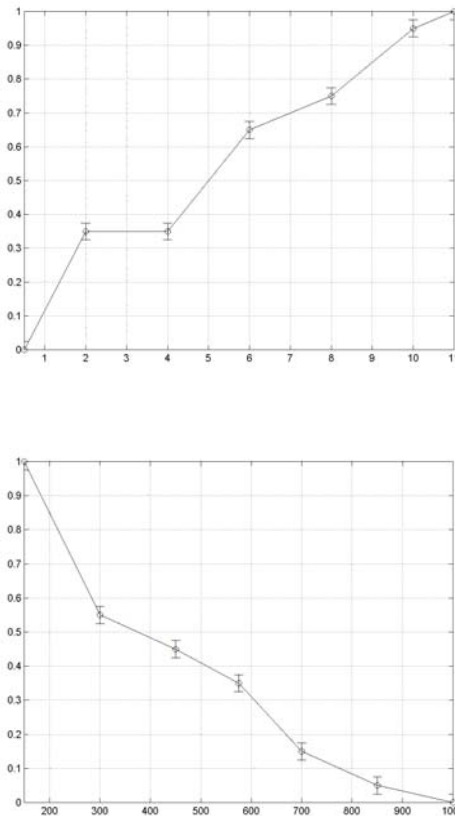
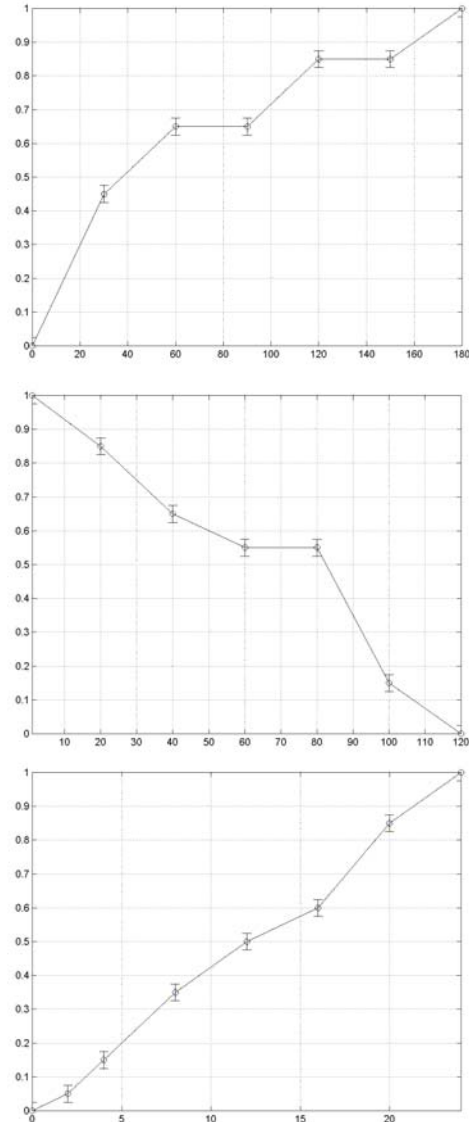
# Single Attributes Aggregated

- Depicts the relative importance of each attribute to the decision maker
- Resolution of  $\pm 0.025$
- User interviewed for ~2 hours





# Multi-Attribute Utility Function\*

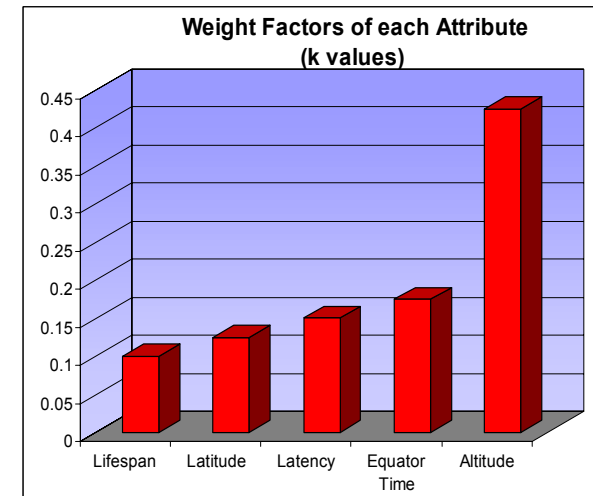


Single attribute utility

$$KU(\underline{X}) + 1 = \prod_{i=1}^N (Kk_i U(X_i) + 1)$$

Normalization constant

Relative "weight"



\*Keeney & Raiffa, 1976.

Microsoft Excel - MIST for X105 Scientific Mission [Read-Only]

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

**MIST: Multi-attribute Interview Software Tool**  
part of the SSPARC-MATE process

version 16.89

Interviewer 16.89 Utility Team Start Log  
Interviewee Kevin Ray  
Interview Date March 9, 2002

Modify Attribute Add Attribute

Single Attribute  
Utility Interview  
Multi-Attribute  
Corner Points Interview  
Independence - High Values  
Independence - Low Values  
Generate Random Sets  
Random Interview

Generate Reports

Schedule Interviews Run Interview  
Observe Allow Observe

password mate  
keyword     encrypt  
output adam

**Current Attributes**

	Single?	Corner?	Independence?	
Data Life Span	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sample Altitude	✓	✓	✓	✓
Diversity of Latitudes	✓	✓	✓	✓
Time Spent	✓	✓	✓	✓
Latency Scientific	✓	✓	✓	✓

Delete Responses

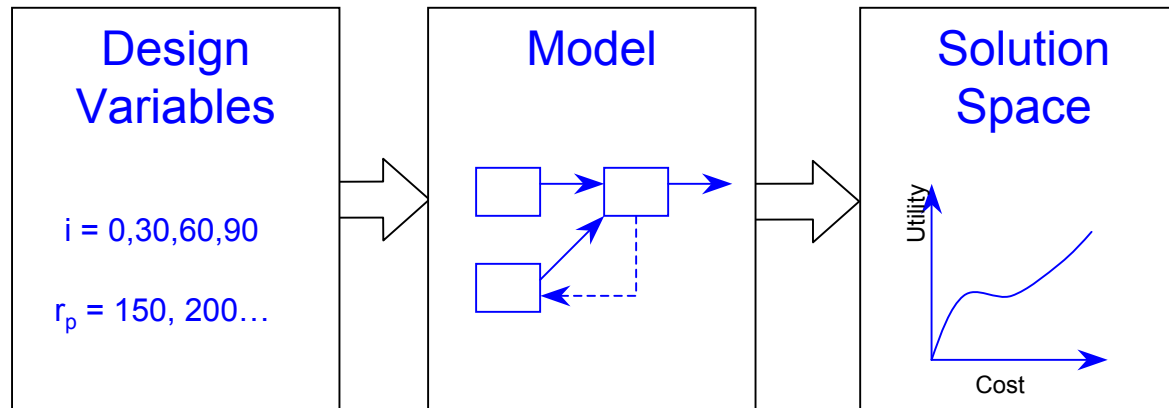
**Random Mix Questions**

Attribute	28%	2.50%	18%	3%	18%
Data Life Span	8	6	8	10	8
Sample Altitude	300	850	300	850	450
Diversity of Latitudes	90	30	60	150	120
Time Spent	8	4	20	20	12
Latency Scientific	80	60	60	20	60

Home / Utility Data / Random Value Answers / Interviews List / Data Life Span / Data Life Span history / Sample Altitude / Sample Altitude history / Diversity of Latitudes / Diversity of Latitudes history / Time Spent / Time Spent history

Interviews require interaction with decision makers to determine utility functions

\*MIST created by Satwik Seshasai, MIT 2002

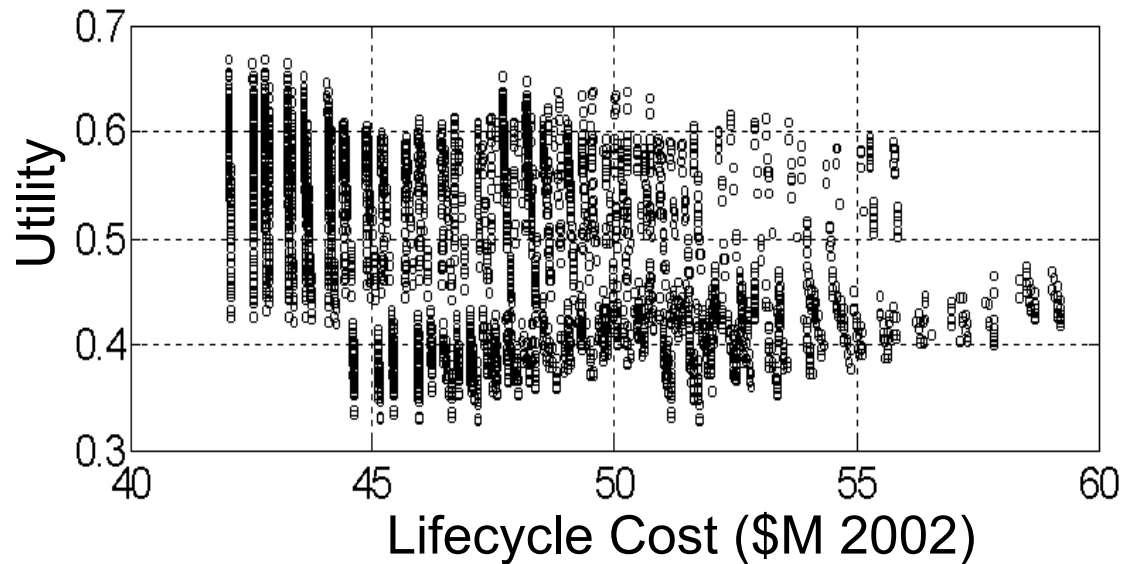


- Create design vector
- Create model and simulation software
- Find utilities / analyze architectures

# ***X-TOS Design Vector***

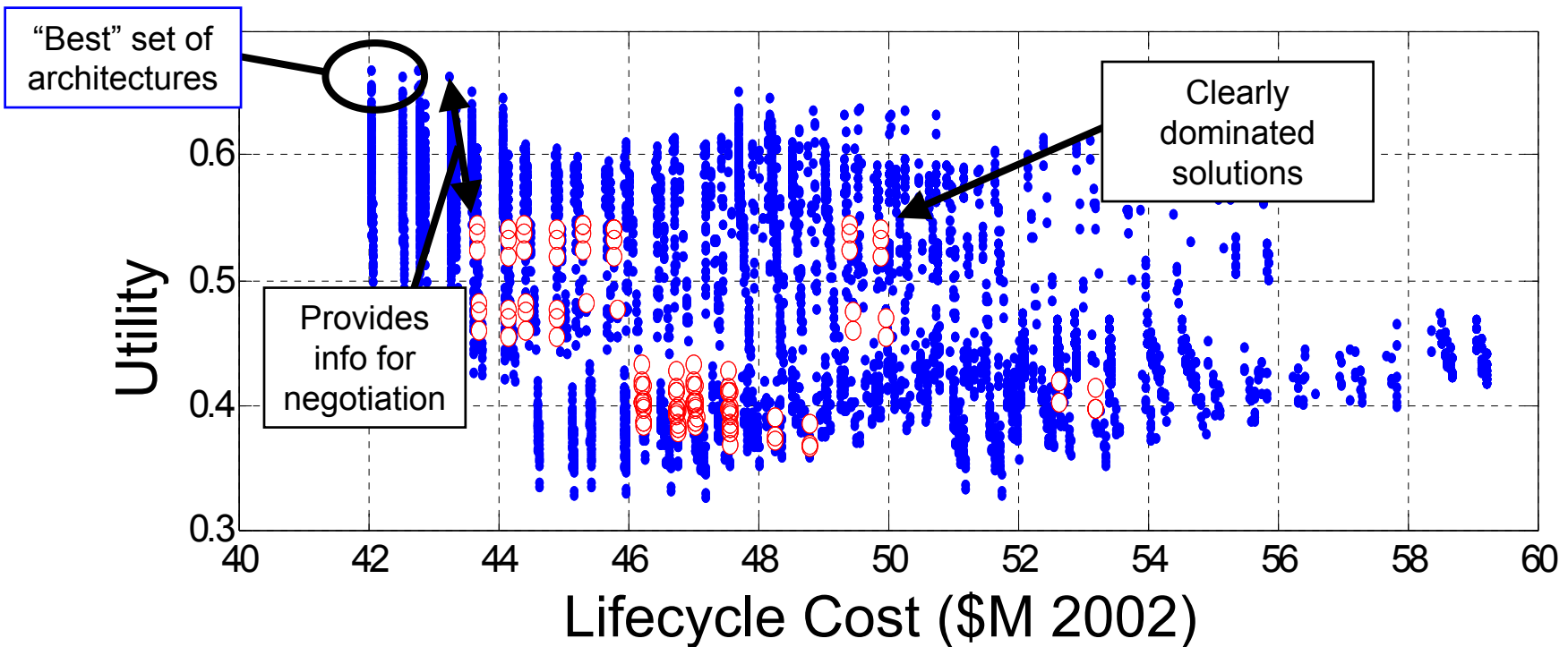
<b>Variable:</b>	<b>First Order Effect:</b>
Mission Scenarios:	
•Single satellite, single launch	Cost
•Two satellites, sequential launch	Life span, Cost
•Two satellites, parallel launch	Latitude Range, Time at Equator, Cost
Orbital Parameters:	
•Apogee altitude (200 to 2000 km)	Life span, Altitude
•Perigee altitude (150 to 350 km)	Life span, Altitude
•Orbit inclination (0 to 90 degrees)	Life span, Altitude, Latitude Range, Time at Equator
Physical Spacecraft Parameters:	
•Antenna gain (low/high)	Latency
•Comm Architecture (TDRSS/AFSCN)	Latency
•Propulsion type (Hall/Chemical)	Life span
•Power type (fuel/solar)	Life span
•Total $\Delta V$ capability (200 to 1000 m/s)	Life span

# Initial Solution Space (X-TOS)



- Examine Utility vs. Cost plot
- Explore results with decision maker(s). Revise utility if necessary and rerun architecture space
- Select initial design point(s) for further evaluation

# STEP 1 Possible Results



Blue points represent X-TOS initial tradespace exploration

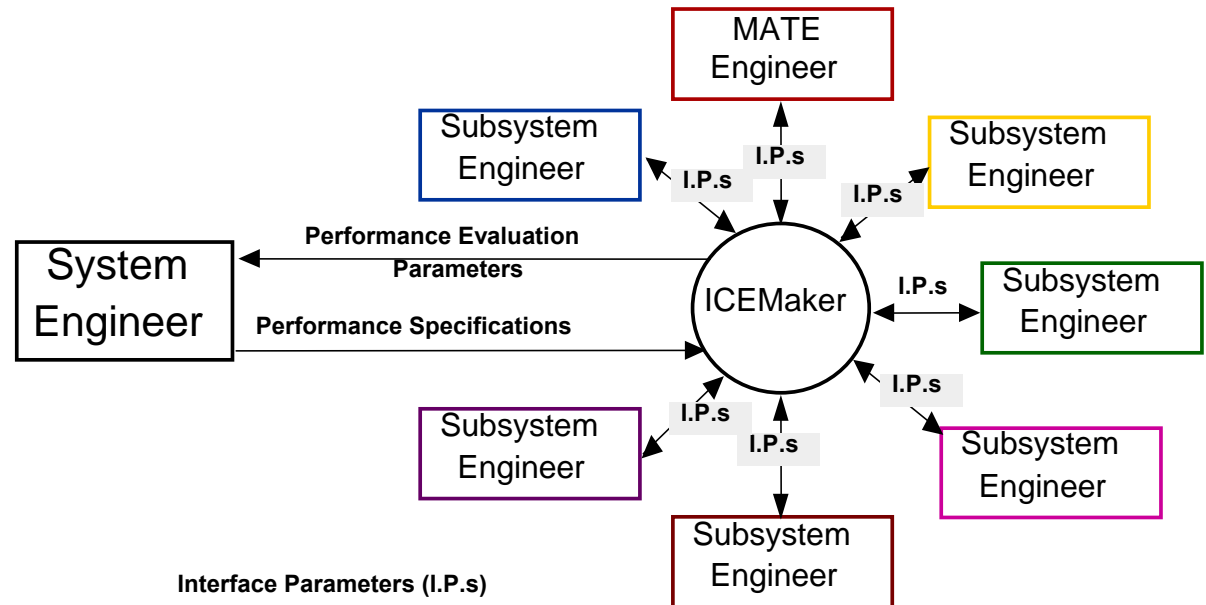
Red points represent possible STEP 1 equivalent architectures

Important: Convert points back to attribute values for communication

**STEP 1 mission is X-TOS precursor flown in early 1990s**

# Flow Selected Design Point(s)

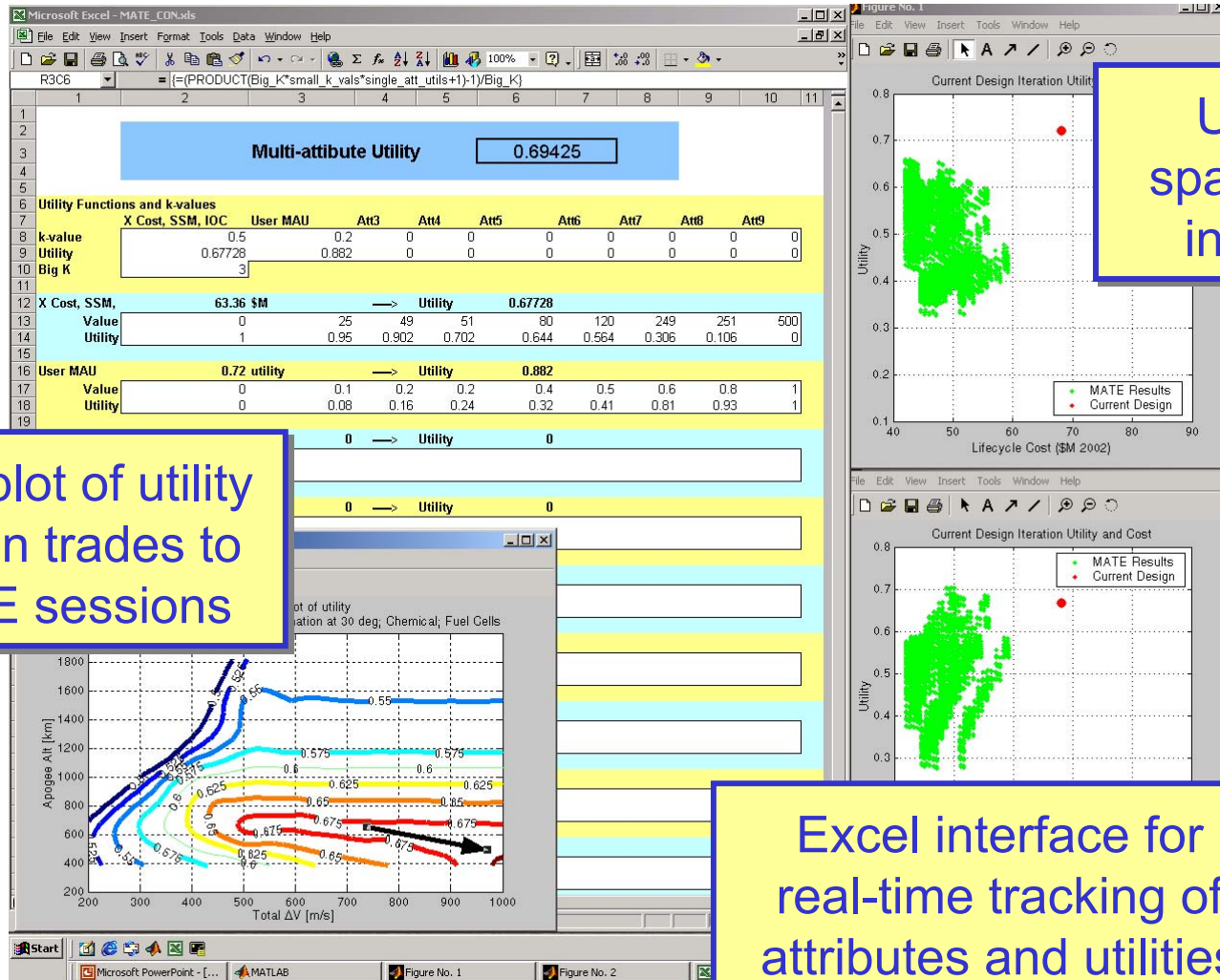
ICE Subsystem Engineers represent downstream business units to achieve enterprise buy-in (e.g. manufacturing)



- Repeat modeling with increased fidelity (ICE)
- Repeat utility calculations with improved fidelity designs to revise trade space

Architecture-level selected point design(s) flow down to Integrated Concurrent Engineering environment

\* ICEMaker courtesy of Dr. Joel Sercel, Caltech



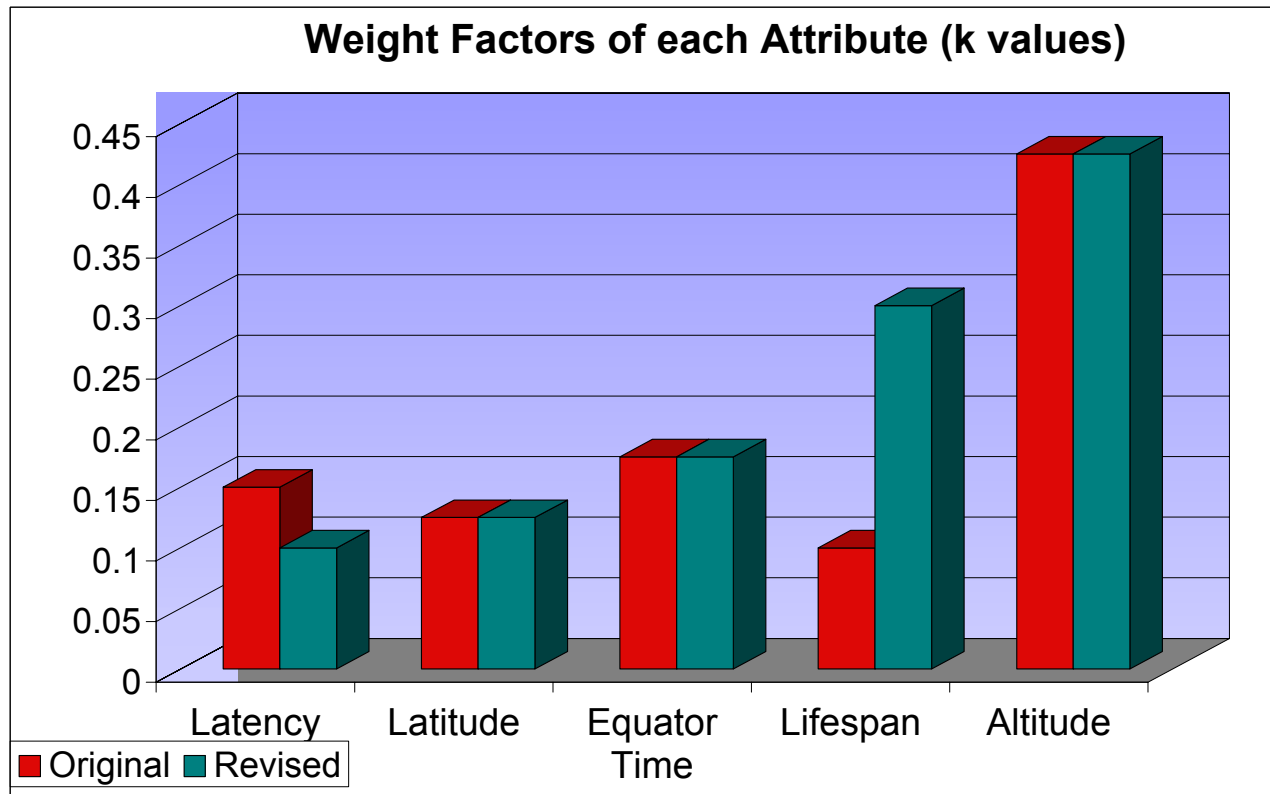
Contour plot of utility  
vs. design trades to  
guide CE sessions

Utility-cost  
spaces plotted  
in MATLAB

Excel interface for  
real-time tracking of  
attributes and utilities

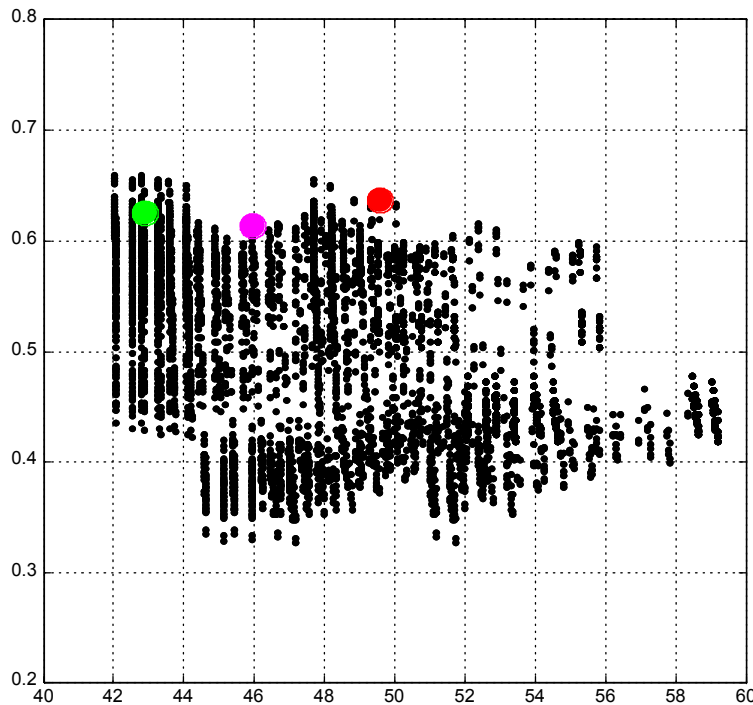


# Preference Change Flexibility

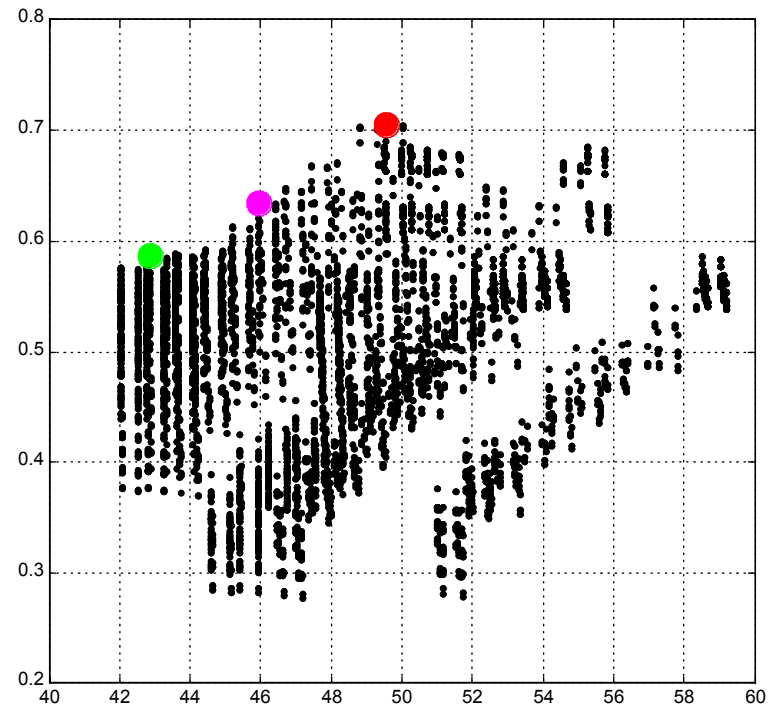


- After reviewing MATE results, User expressed revised preferences
- Increased importance of Lifespan
- Slight decrease in importance of Latency

Original



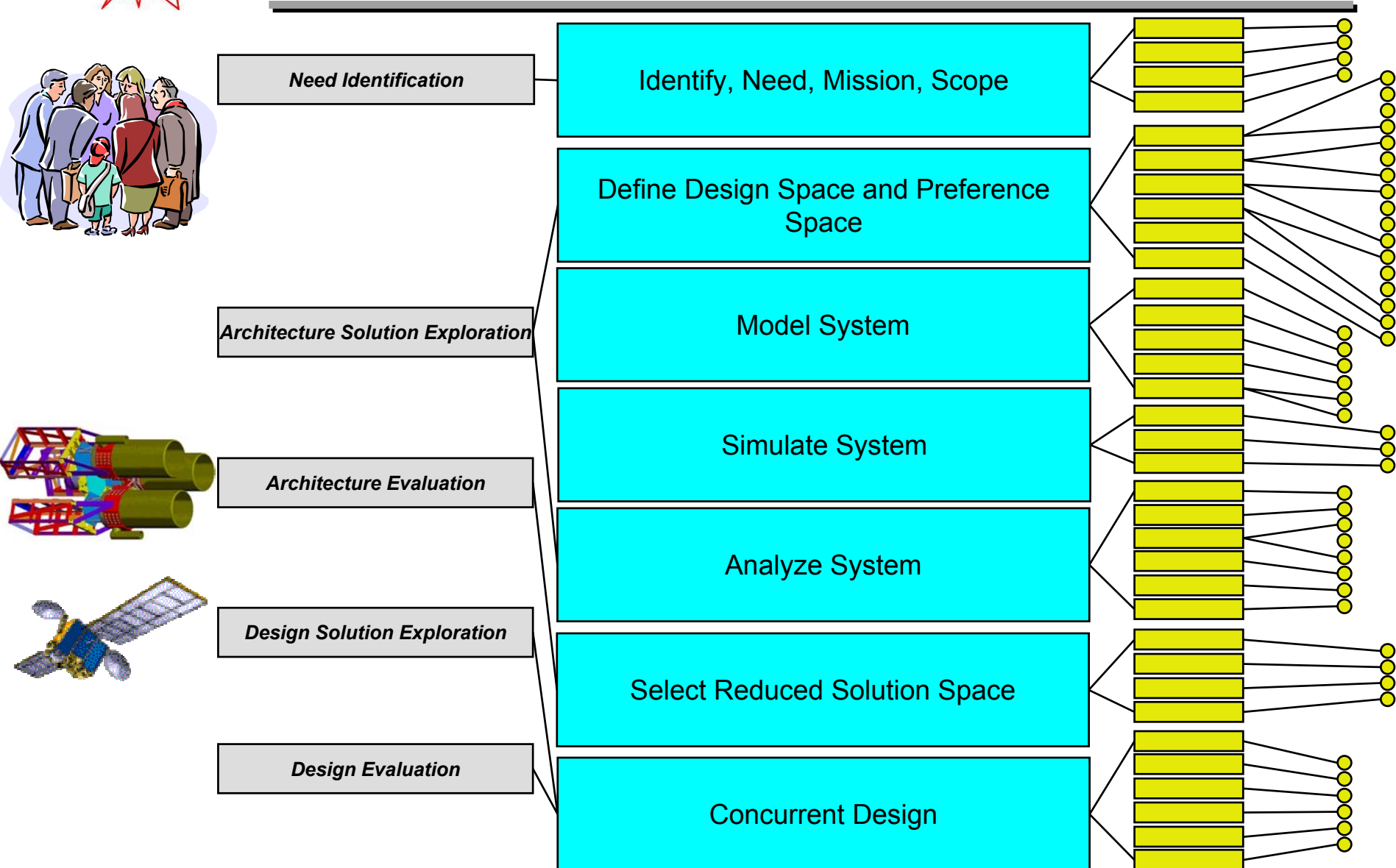
Revised

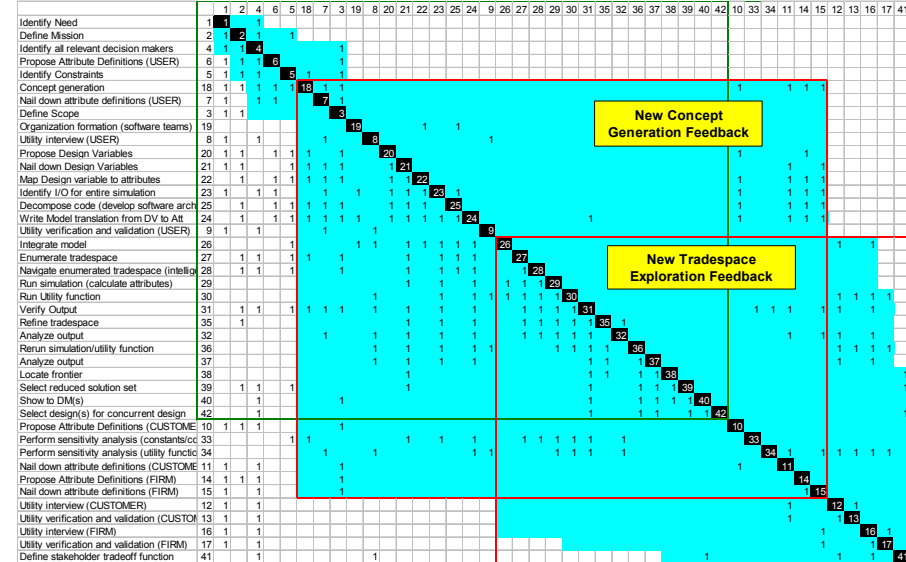
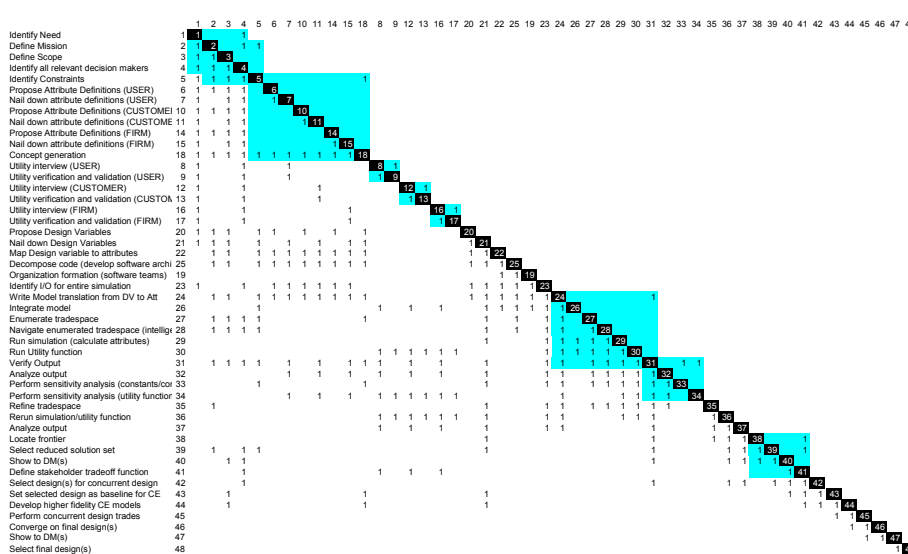


Preference change: Lifespan (increased), Latency (decreased)

Re-evaluation time: several minutes to several hours

# MATE Process Formalization



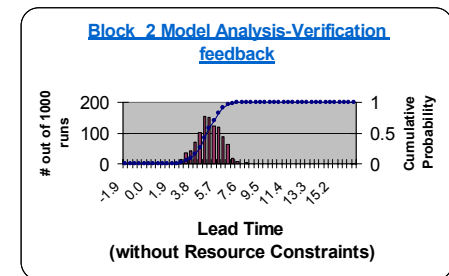
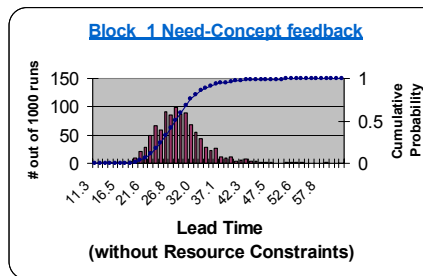


Optimized

Actual X-TOS

Highlighted boxes indicate feedback blocks

X-TOS “completed” in one semester.



Activity representation allows for streamlined process modeling

- Preference captured through utility
  - Reduces miscommunication of upstream needs
  - Focuses design to achieve better “value”
- Modular model-based design linked with ICE
  - Allows incremental improvement in fidelity
  - Enables large tradespace exploration
  - Achieves buy-in and input from downstream stakeholders
- Formal process developed through activity list
  - Allows process optimization and analysis
  - Enables better allocation of designer resources

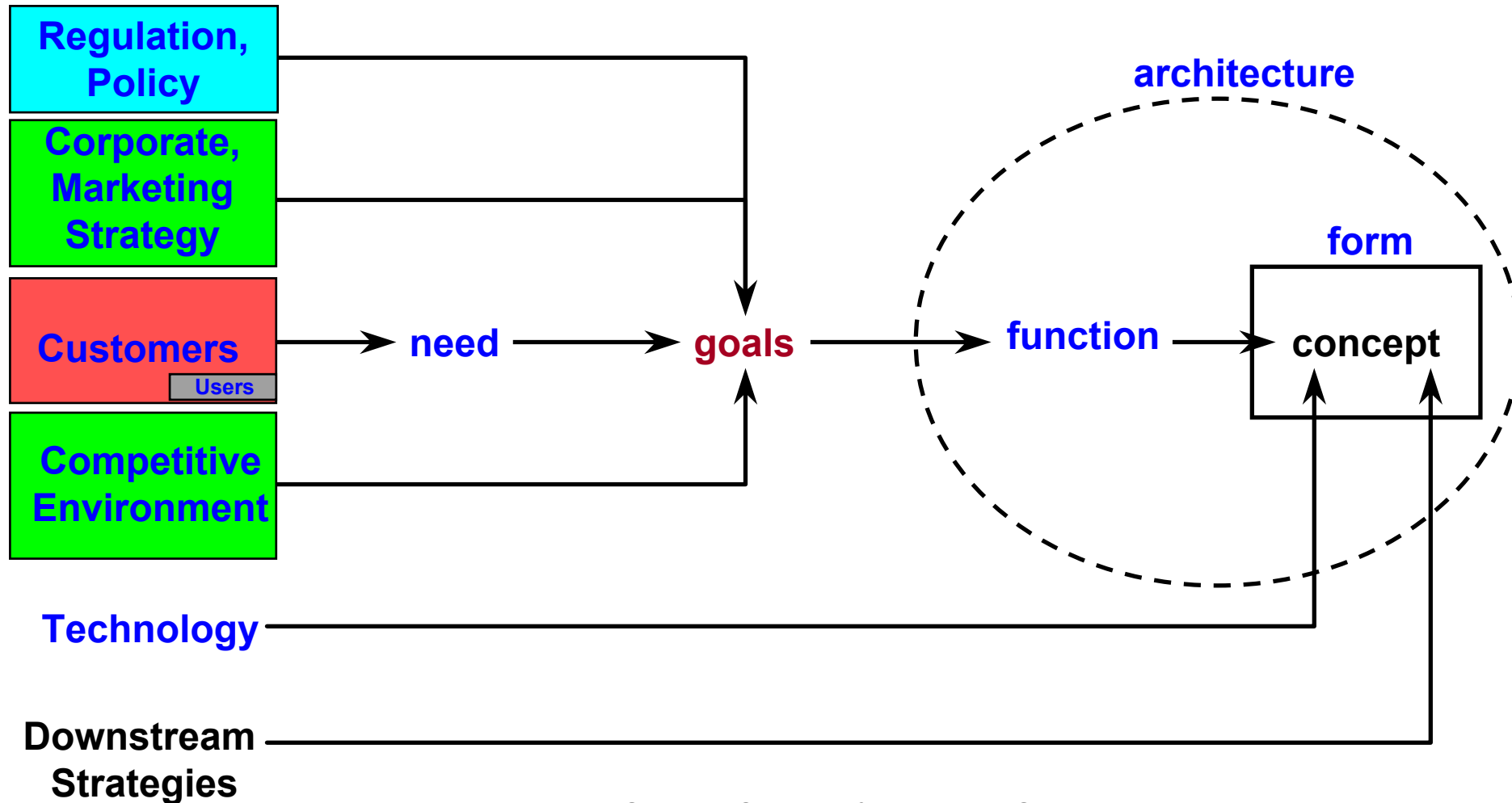
# ***Backup Slides***

- MIT is developing a design process that incorporates Multi-Attribute Utility Theory with model, simulation-based and concurrent design to enable a more flexible and rapid exploration of space system tradespaces. A formal framework for rapid communication of preferences promises to reduce cycle time and result in a higher value product.

- Tradespace: the space spanned by the enumerated design variables; the potential solution space
- Exploration: the utility-guided search for better solutions within a tradespace
- Decision maker: those roles that make decisions that impact a system at any stage of its lifecycle
- Pareto frontier: the economically efficient allocation of resources that requires making one factor worse in order to improve another

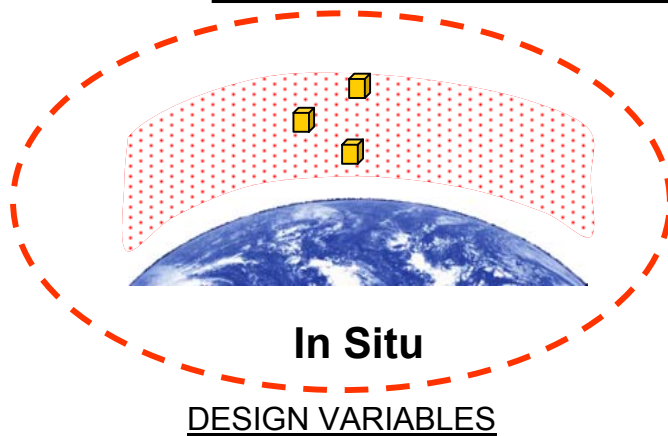


# Upstream Influences on Architecture



Source: Crawley & de Weck, System Architecture 16.882, 2001

# Project 1: A-TOS



## Bulk Orbit Variables

- Swarm inclination 63.4°
- Swarm perigee altitude 200 – 800 km
- Swarm apogee altitude 200 – 800 km
- Swarm argument of perigee 0°
- Number of orbit planes 1
- Swarms per plane 1

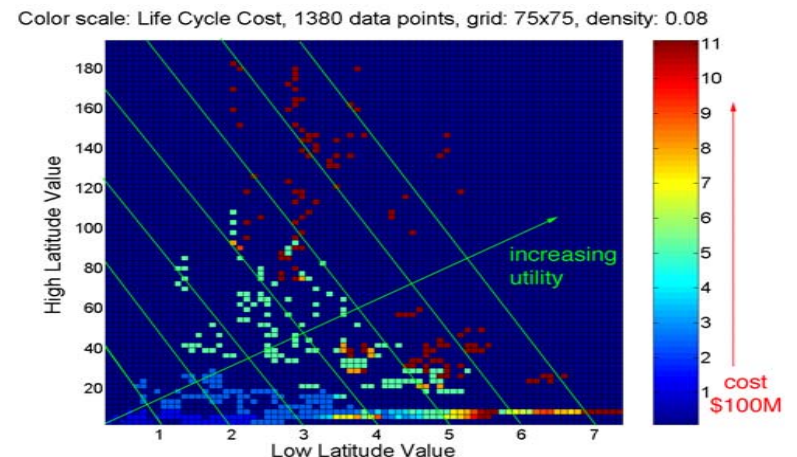
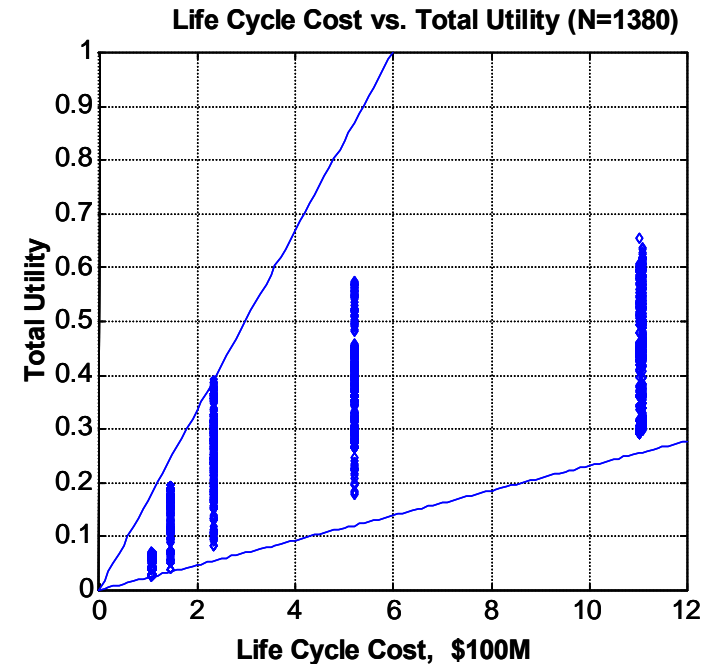
## Swarm Orbit Variables

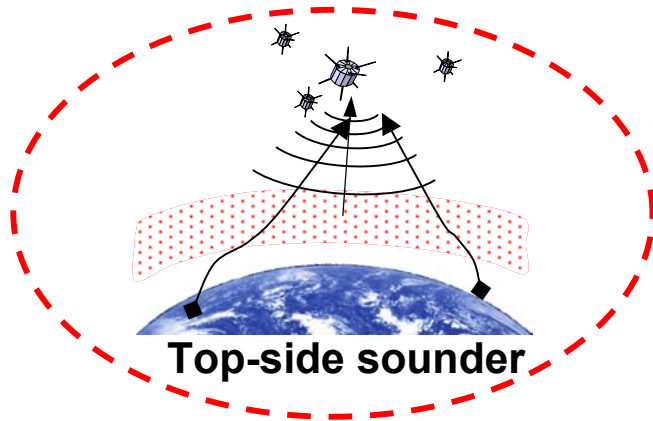
- Subsats per swarm 1 – 26
- Number of subplanes in each swarm 1 – 2
- Number of suborbits in each subplane 1 – 4
- Yaw angle of subplanes (a vector)  $\pm 60^\circ$
- Maximum satellite separation 1 m – 200 km

## Non-orbit Variables

- Mothership (yes/no)

**Number of Architectures Explored: 1380**

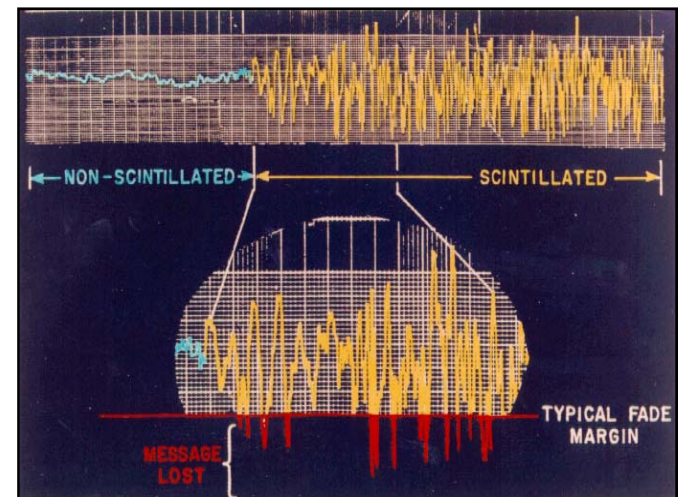
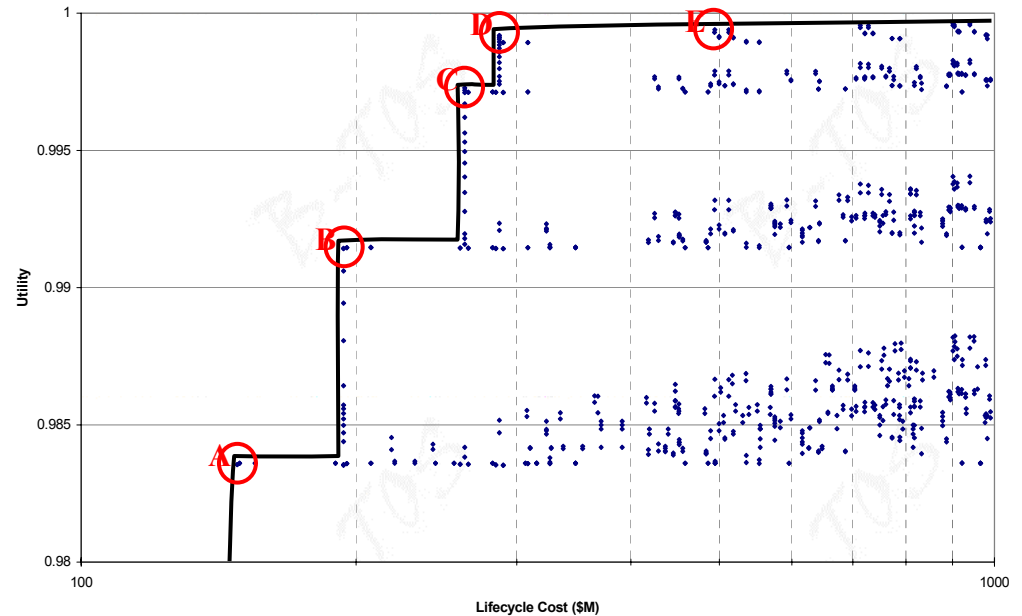


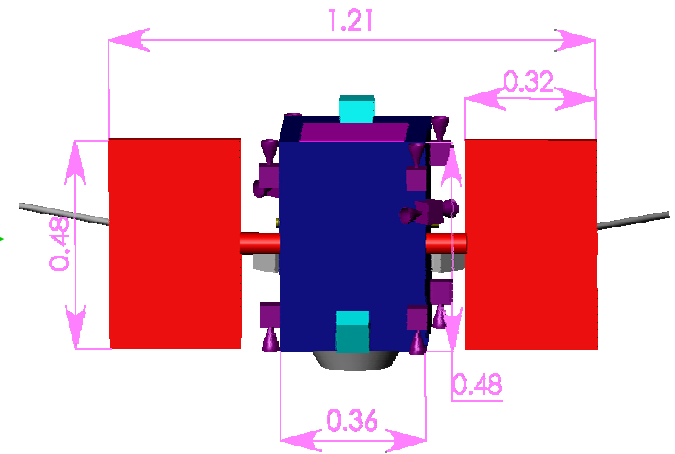
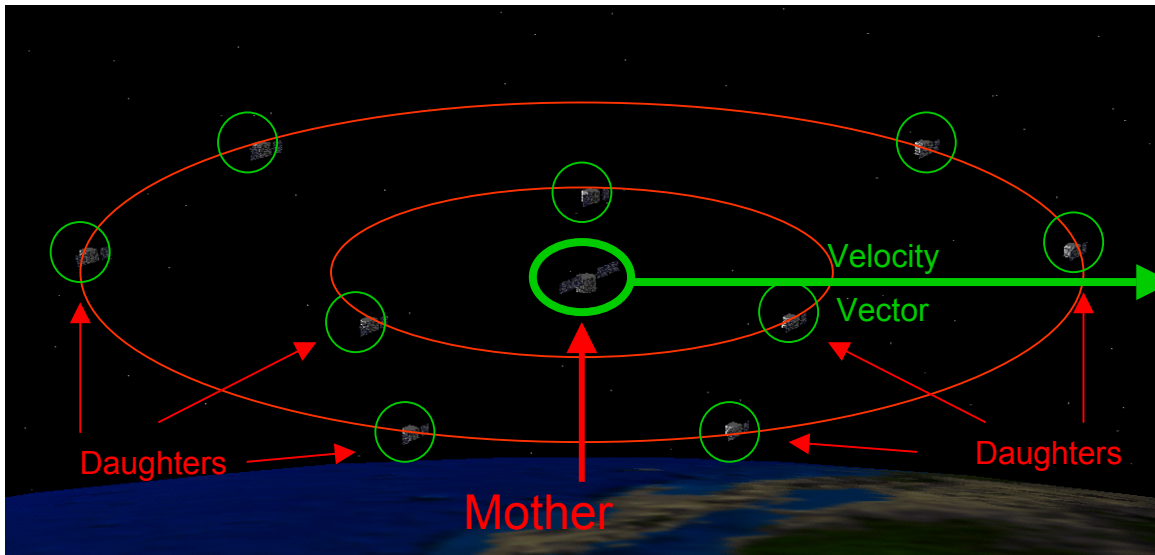


## DESIGN VARIABLES

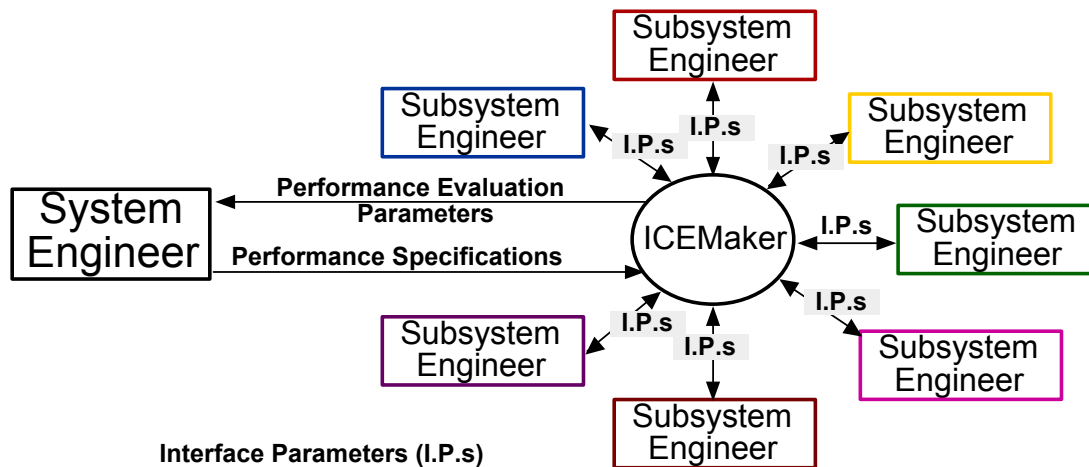
- **Large Scale Arch**
    - Circular orbit altitude (km) 1100, 1300
    - Number of Planes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
  - **Swarm Arch**
    - Number of Swarms/Plane 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
    - Number of Satellites/Swarm 4, 7, 10, 13
    - Radius of Swarm (km) 0.18, 1.5, 8.75, 50
  - **Vehicle Arch**
    - 5 Configuration Studies
- Trades payload, communication, and processing capability

**Number of Architectures Explored: 4033**

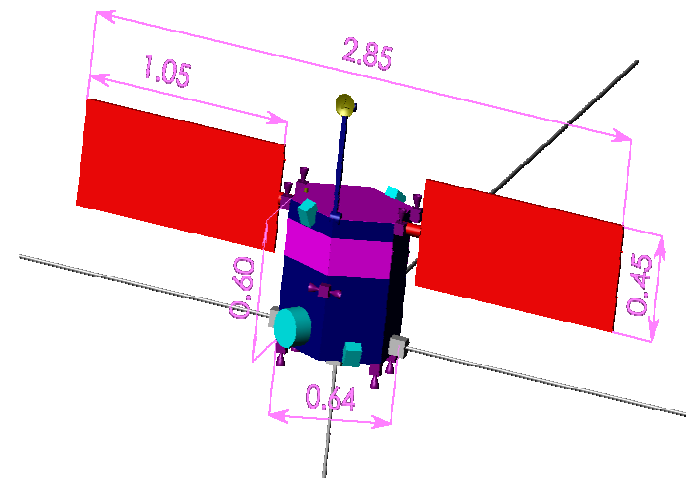




All dimensions in meters

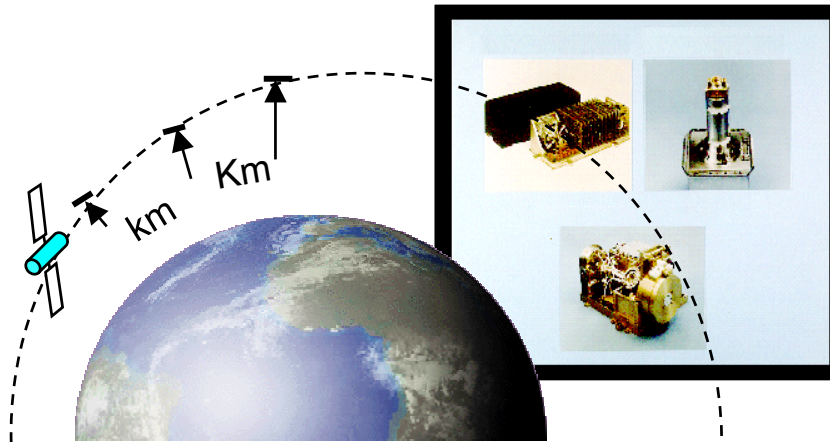


Number of Architectures Explored: 1



All dimensions in meters

# Project 4: X-TOS

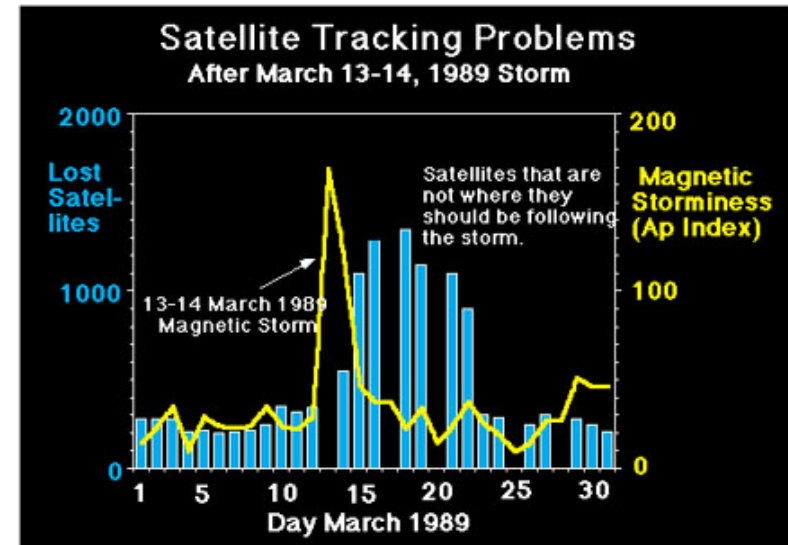
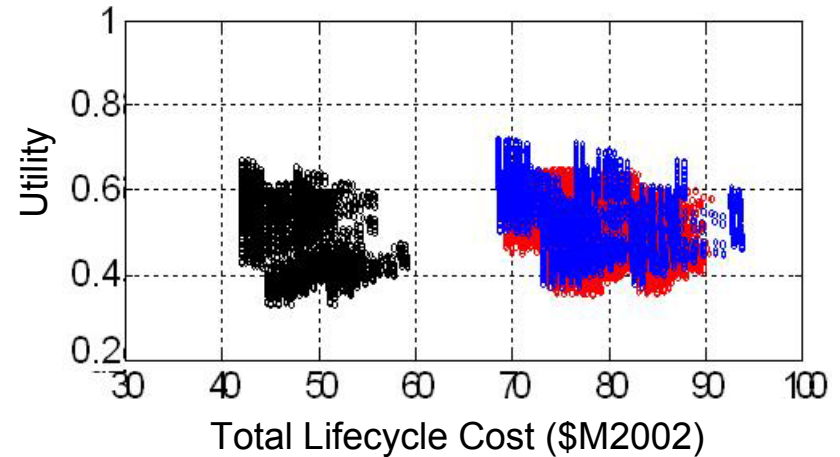


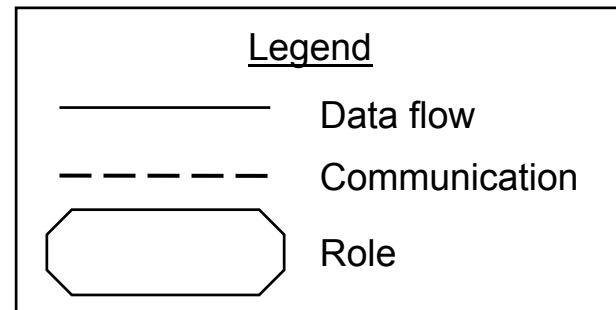
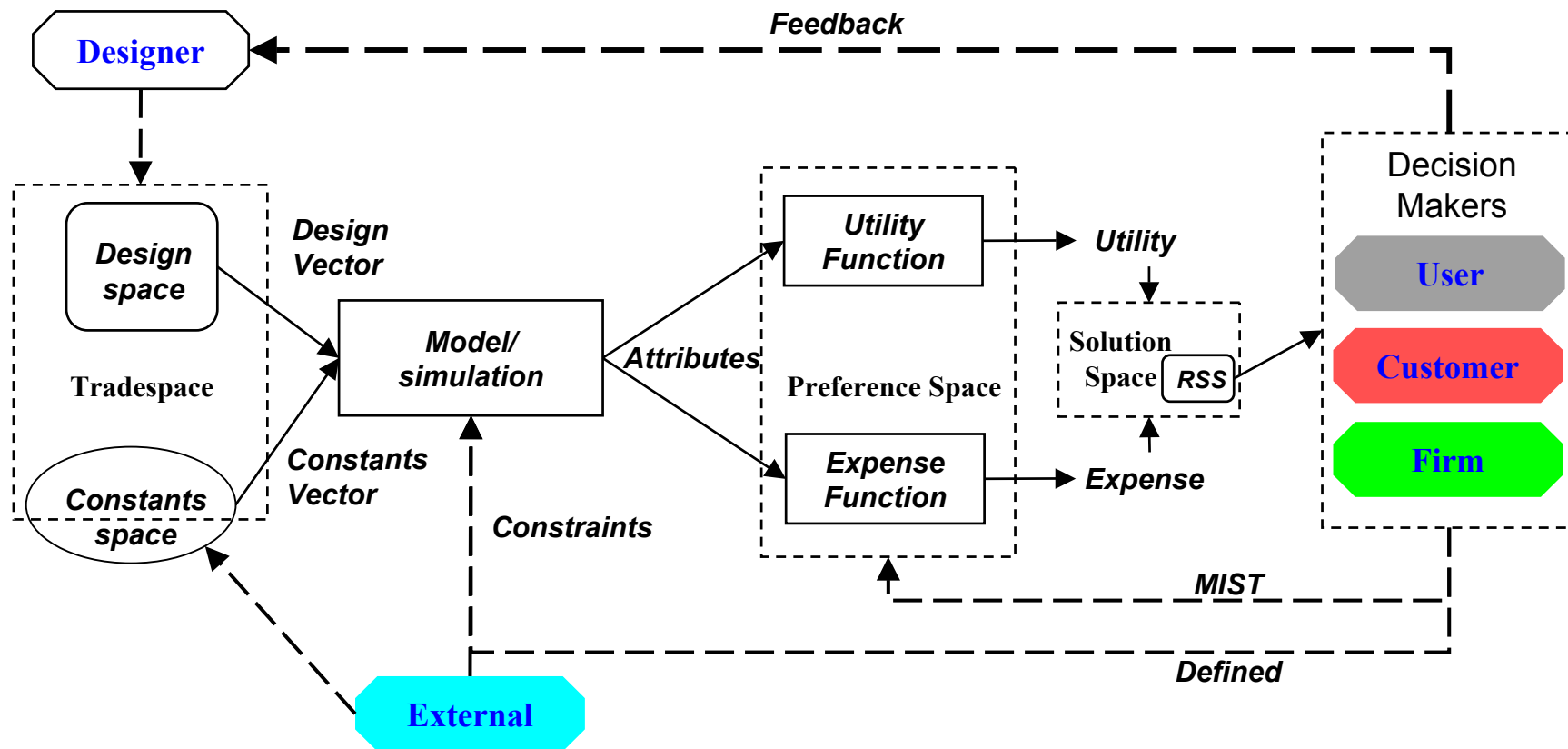
## DESIGN VARIABLES

- Mission Scenarios
  - Single satellite, single launch
  - Two satellites, sequential launch
  - Two satellites, parallel
- Orbital Parameters
 

– Apogee altitude (km)	150-1100
– Perigee altitude (km)	150-1100
– Orbit inclination	0, 30, 60, 90
- Physical Spacecraft Parameters
  - Antenna gain
  - communication architecture
  - propulsion type
  - power type
  - delta\_v

Number of Architectures Explored: 50488







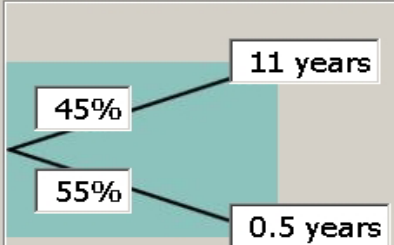
- Attributes framed by “scenarios”—meant to take each attribute in isolation
- MIST uses “lottery equivalent probability” to create a curve
- User first rates each attribute individually, then balances each against the others

Utility Interview

## Data Life Span

Scenario	Definition
A ground station has developed the technology to accurately extract pertinent data for the AFRL model. This ground station will significantly increase data life span as compared to current systems. However, this new ground station has uncertain long-term funding. Your design team has studied the issue. They indicate that the new technology will give you a ## chance of getting a data life span of 11 years or a 1-## chance of getting 0.5 years. The current technology will give you a 50% chance of getting a XX data life span or 0.5 years.	Elapsed time between the first and last data points of the entire program measured in years.

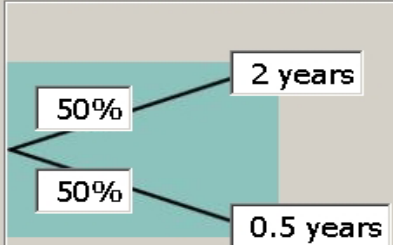
Which option do you prefer: A, B or are you indifferent?



**A**

**OR**

Indifferent



**B**

Help

Submit

Exit

## ***MIST Short-term benefits***

---

- Faster, automated interview process makes more frequent interviews possible (~couple hours/interview)
- Data collected, stored and immediately accessible
- Design history and rationale for attribute definition captured
- Utility functions generated immediately: allows for re-questioning for any ambiguous or inconsistent answers
- Potential for analysis tools to understand relations between multiple stakeholders and multiple projects.

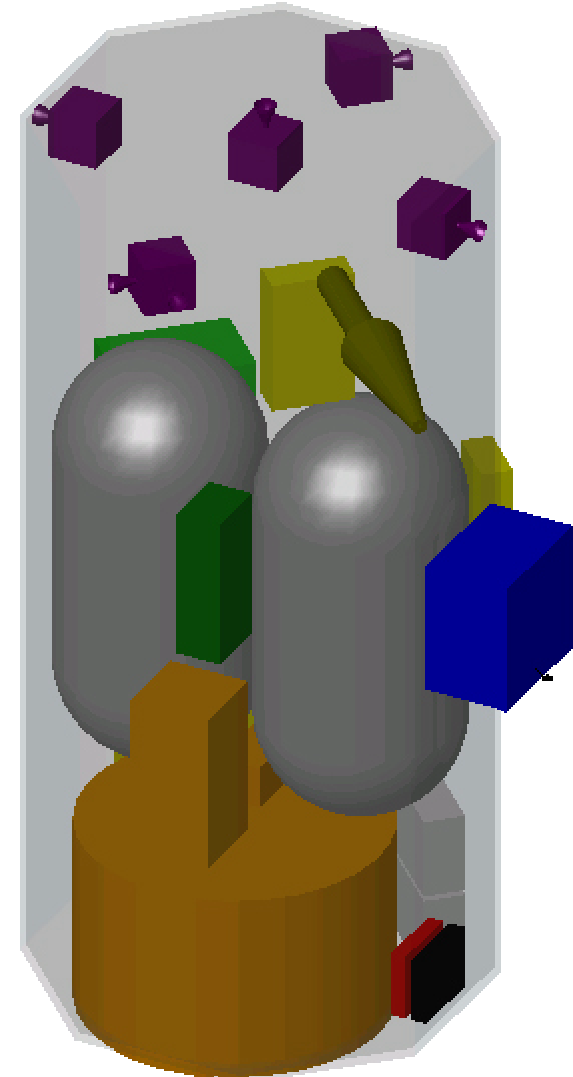
**Evolving project will continue to have incremental value at each stage**



# ***X-TOS Baseline Design***

- Est. Cost: \$71.7 M
- USER Utility: 0.611 (0.705\*)
- CUST Utility: 0.656 (0.678\*)
- Wet Mass: 449.6 kg
- Dry Mass: 188.9 kg
- Lifetime: 0.534 years
- Orbit: 185 km circular
- LV: Minotaur

\* Denotes “Original” User Utility



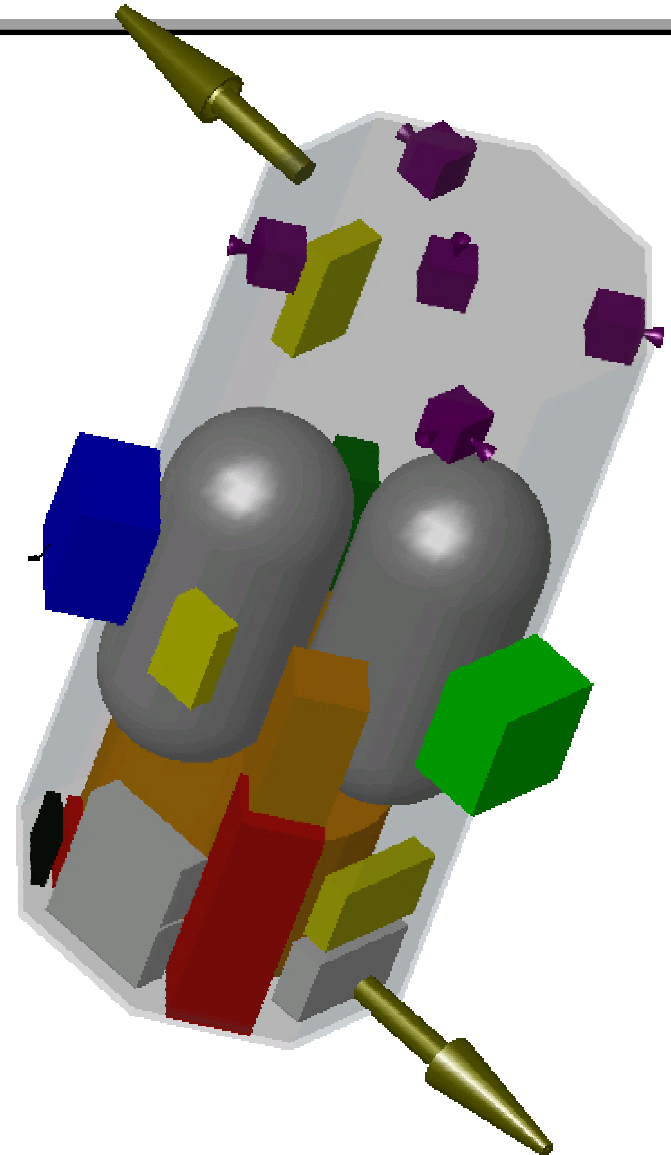
# ***X-TOS Baseline Attributes***

<b>Attribute</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Units</b>
Lifespan	0.52	years
Latitude Diversity	180	degrees
Equator Time	5.4	hours/day
Latency	1.14	minutes
Altitude	185	km
SSM Cost to IOC	66.6	\$M 2002

<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Original Prefs</b>	<b>Revised Prefs</b>
USER	0.705	0.611
CUSTOMER	0.686	0.663

- Est. Cost: \$75.0 M
- USER Utility: 0.556 (0.590\*)
- CUST Utility: 0.585 (0.640\*)
- Wet Mass: 324.3 kg
- Dry Mass: 205.5 kg
- Lifetime: 2.204 years
- Orbit: 300 km circular
- LV: Minotaur

\* Denotes "Original" User Utility



# ***X-TOS Last Design Attributes***

---

<b>Attribute</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Units</b>
Lifespan	2.2	years
Latitude Diversity	180	degrees
Equator Time	5.4	hours/day
Latency	1.14	minutes
Altitude	300	km
SSM Cost to IOC	69.7	\$M 2002

<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Original Prefs</b>	<b>Revised Prefs</b>
USER	0.590	0.556
CUSTOMER	0.640	0.585